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AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING CO

Form 4 June 12, 2008

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

OMB APPROVAL

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

January 31, Expires: 2005 Estimated average

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

burden hours per response... 0.5

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Issuer

below)

MATOVINA JOHN M Symbol

> AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE HOLDING

(Check all applicable)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

CO [AEL]

(Last) (First) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

_X__ Director 10% Owner Other (specify X_ Officer (give title

Vice Chairman

(Month/Day/Year) 5000 WESTOWN PARKWAY, 06/11/2008

(Middle)

SUITE 440

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

(Instr. 4)

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership

(Instr. 4)

Reported

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

(A) Code V Amount (D) Price

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5. Number of	Date Exerci	sable and	7. Title and A	Amοι
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	onDerivative	Expiration Date		Underlying Secur	
Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)	(Month/Day/Year)		(Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(Instr. 3, 4, and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Am
									Nur of S
Options-Right To Buy	\$ 10.85	06/11/2008		A	40,000	06/11/2011	06/11/2018	Common Stock	40

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
MATOVINA JOHN M 5000 WESTOWN PARKWAY, SUITE 440 WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	X		Vice Chairman			

Signatures

Debra J. Richardson, by Power of Attorney 06/12/2008

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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